

and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; LaTina Burse Greene, Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Retirement and Disability Policy, Social Security Administration; Kelly O'Donnell, Fi-

nancial Engines, Boston, Massachusetts; and Sabrina L. Schaeffer, Independent Women's Forum, and Joan Entmacher, National Women's Law Center, both of Washington, D.C.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 23 public bills, H.R. 6182–6204; and 2 resolutions, H.J. Res. 116; and H. Res. 740 were introduced.

Pages H5290–92

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H5292–93

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 741, providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4078) to provide that no agency may take any significant regulatory action until the unemployment rate is equal to or less than 6.0 percent (H. Rept. 112–623).

Page H5290

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Farenthold to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H5203

Recess: The House recessed at 10:45 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H5208

Suspension—Failed: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

President Obama's Proposed 2012–2017 Offshore Drilling Lease Sale Plan Act: H.R. 6168, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to implement the Proposed Final Outer Continental Shelf Oil & Gas Leasing Program (2012–2017) in accordance with the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and other applicable law, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 164 yeas to 261 nays, Roll No. 512.

Pages H5212–17, H5224

Congressional Replacement of President Obama's Energy-Restricting and Job-Limiting Offshore Drilling Plan: The House passed H.R. 6082, to officially replace, within the 60-day Congressional review period under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, President Obama's Proposed Final Outer Continental Shelf Oil & Gas Leasing Program (2012–2017) with a congressional plan that will conduct additional oil and natural gas lease sales to promote offshore energy development, job creation, and increased domestic energy production to ensure a more secure energy future in the United States, by a recorded vote of 253 yeas to 170 noes, Roll No. 511. Consideration of the measure began yesterday, July 24th.

Pages H5217–24

Rejected the Slaughter motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 179 yeas to 240 nays, Roll No. 510.

Pages H5222–23

Rejected:

Holt amendment (No. 2 printed in part C of H. Rept. 112–616) that was debated on July 24th that sought to strike the provision that requires the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a single multi-sale environmental impact statement for all of the new areas opened for drilling by the underlying bill (by a recorded vote of 163 yeas to 253 noes, Roll No. 504);

Page H5218

Markey amendment (No. 4 printed in part C of H. Rept. 112–616) that was debated on July 24th that sought to prohibit gas produced under new leases authorized by this legislation from being exported to foreign countries (by a recorded vote of 158 yeas to 262 noes, Roll No. 505);

Pages H5218–19

Markey amendment (No. 5 printed in part C of H. Rept. 112–616) that was debated on July 24th that sought to create a statutory requirement that new leases offered pursuant to this act include drilling safety improvements in response to the BP Deepwater Horizon disaster (by a recorded vote of 189 yeas to 232 noes, Roll No. 506);

Pages H5219–20

Holt amendment (No. 6 printed in part C of H. Rept. 112–616) that was debated on July 24th that sought to end free drilling in the Gulf of Mexico by requiring oil companies to pay in order to receive new leases on public lands (by a recorded vote of 177 yeas to 247 noes, Roll No. 507);

Page H5220

Hastings (FL) amendment (No. 7 printed in part C of H. Rept. 112–616) that was debated on July 24th that sought to require each drilling permit application to include an estimate of how much the price of gasoline will decrease as a result of any oil or gas found under the permit (by a recorded vote of 158 yeas to 266 noes, Roll No. 508); and

Pages H5220–21

Hastings (FL) amendment (No. 8 printed in part C of H. Rept. 112–616) that was debated on July

24th that sought to require each drilling permit application to include an estimate of the impact on global change of the consumption of any oil or gas found under the permit (by a recorded vote of 150 ayes to 275 noes, Roll No. 509). **Page H5221**

H. Res. 738, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4078) and (H.R. 6082) was agreed to yesterday, July 24th.

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure which was debated yesterday, July 24th:

Federal Reserve Transparency Act: H.R. 459, amended, to require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States before the end of 2012, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 327 yeas to 98 nays, Roll No. 513. **Pages H5224–25**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States, and for other purposes.”. **Page H5225**

Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act of 2012: The House began consideration of H.R. 4078, to provide that no agency may take any significant regulatory action until the unemployment rate is equal to or less than 6.0 percent. Further proceedings were postponed. **Pages H5225–89**

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 112–28, modified by the amendment printed in part A of H. Rept. 112–616, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole, in lieu of the amendments in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committees on the Judiciary and Oversight and Government Reform now printed in the bill. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule. **Pages H5243–44**

Agreed to:

Schweikert amendment (No. 14 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that defines “annual cost to the economy” as being inclusive of business revenue, so that determination of the bill’s application shall be accurately applied; **Page H5274**

Manzullo amendment (No. 22 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that requires each Federal agency to submit and obtain approval from the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) guidelines for ensuring and maximizing the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of scientific information relied upon by the agency; and **Pages H5283–84**

Lummis amendment (No. 23 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that adds a new title to the bill requiring the tracking and reporting of all payments issued pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA). Would establish a publicly available, online searchable database to access information regarding EAJA payments and the parties involved in the adjudicatory action leading to an EAJA payment. **Pages H5284–86**

Rejected:

Hastings (FL) amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that sought to provide an exception to the underlying legislation, permitting agencies to make regulatory actions intended to ensure safe drinking water (by a recorded vote of 188 ayes to 231 noes, Roll No. 514); **Pages H5251–52, H5261–62**

Johnson (GA) amendment (No. 2 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that sought to exempt regulatory actions pertaining to privacy from Title I of the bill and exempt midnight rules pertaining to privacy from Title II of the bill. The amendment would also have exempted consent decrees and settlement agreements in an action to compel agency action pertaining to privacy from Title III of the bill (by a recorded vote of 159 ayes to 259 noes, Roll No. 515); **Pages H5252–53, H5262**

Kucinich amendment (No. 3 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that sought to exempt from the provisions of the bill any significant regulatory action specifically aimed at limiting oil speculation (by a recorded vote of 173 ayes to 245 noes, Roll No. 516); **Pages H5253–59, H5262–63**

Welch amendment (No. 4 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that sought to provide an exception for regulations which are intended to promote energy efficiency (by a recorded vote of 174 ayes to 242 noes, Roll No. 517); and **Pages H5259–60, H5263**

Markey amendment (No. 5 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that sought to allow regulations protecting the public from extreme weather, including drought, flooding and catastrophic wildfire, to go forward despite the prohibitions in the underlying bill (by a recorded vote of 177 ayes to 240 noes, Roll No. 518). **Pages H5260–61, H5263–64**

Proceedings Postponed:

Watt amendment (No. 6 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to exempt regulatory actions that are regulatory actions by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office that streamline the application process for patents and trademarks, including rules implementing the micro entity provision of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, from Title I of the bill and exempts midnight rules implementing

such provisions from Title II of the bill. The amendment also would exempt consent decrees and settlement agreements in an action to compel agency action by the PTO to help streamline the application process for patents and trademarks from Title III of the bill;

Page H5265

Loebsack amendment (No. 7 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to allow actions that would lower prices for gasoline, diesel, oil, or other motor fuels;

Pages H5265–67

Richardson amendment (No. 8 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to ensure that the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the health provisions of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 can be carried out;

Pages H5267–68

Richardson amendment (No. 9 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to allow regulations that protect consumers under the Fair Credit Reporting Act;

Pages H5268–69

Connolly amendment (No. 10 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to clarify the procedure for considering a request for a congressional waiver by the President;

Pages H5269–70

Posey amendment (No. 11 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to require that awarded attorney's fees and costs for small businesses in Title I would be paid out of the administrative budget of the office in the agency that proposed the regulation;

Pages H5270–71

Nadler amendment (No. 12 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to exempt issues relating to nuclear power plants from the obstacles to establishing safety protections in the following titles of H.R. 4078: Title I (Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act); Title III (Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act); Title V (Responsibly and Professionally Invigorating Development (RAPID) Act);

Pages H5271–73

McKinley amendment (No. 13 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to reduce the term "significant regulatory action" from \$100,000,000 or more to \$50,000,000 or more in annual cost to the economy. This amendment would allow for more oversight on Federal Agency Regulations by lowering the dollar amount threshold;

Pages H5273–74

George Miller (CA) amendment (No. 15 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to exempt from the definition of significant regulatory action a rule that would prevent or reduce deaths or injuries caused by explosions and fires related to the ignition of combustible dusts in the workplace;

Pages H5275–76

Woolsey amendment (No. 16 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to exempt from the definition of significant regulatory action a rule that

would prevent or reduce the number of workers suffering electrocutions or other fatalities associated with working on high voltage transmission and distribution lines;

Pages H5276–77

Waters amendment (No. 18 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to authorize appropriations (1) to enable the SEC and CFTC to carry out the additional cost/benefit analysis requirements under the bill; (2) for costs of litigation incurred by the Commissions related to the requirements under the bill;

Pages H5277–78

Fitzpatrick amendment (No. 19 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to take into account the large burden of section 404b of Sarbanes-Oxley on companies with a public float less than \$250 million, compared to the benefit;

Pages H5278–80

Posey amendment (No. 20 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to keep the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) from enforcing or issuing interpretive guidance on climate change;

Pages H5280–82

Maloney amendment (No. 21 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to mandate that Title VI cannot take effect until the Chair of the SEC certifies that in conducting the cost benefit analysis no resources will be diverted away from the SEC's mission to protect investors, maintain efficient markets and promote access to capital; and

Pages H5282–83

Posey amendment (No. 25 printed in part B of H. Rept. 112–616) that seeks to make it clear that the definition of "significant regulatory action" would include new Treasury regulations regarding non-resident alien deposits.

Pages H5286–89

H. Res. 738, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4078) and (H.R. 6082) was agreed to yesterday, July 24th.

Order of Business: Agreed by unanimous consent that it be in order at any time to consider H. Con. Res. 134 in the House; that the concurrent resolution be considered as read; and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the concurrent resolution and preamble to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except 30 minutes of debate equally divided and controlled by Representative Coffman and Representative Perlmutter or their respective designees.

Page H5264

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, July 26th.

Pages H5264, H5289

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H5225.

Senate Referral: S. 2090 was held at the desk.

Page H5225

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and 12 recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5218, H5218–19, H5219–20, H5220, H5220–21, H5221, H5223, H5223–24, H5224, H5224–25, H5261, H5262, H5262–63, H5263, H5264. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

Committee Meetings

SWAPS AND FUTURES MARKETS

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Swaps and Futures Markets: Recent Events and Impending Regulatory Reforms”. Testimony was heard from Gary Gensler, Chairman, Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

DOD AND VA COLLABORATION TO ASSIST SERVICE MEMBERS RETURNING TO CIVILIAN LIFE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee on Armed Services and Committee on Veterans’ Affairs held a joint hearing on Back from the Battlefield: DOD and VA Collaboration to Assist Service Members Returning to Civilian Life. Testimony was heard from Leon E. Panetta, Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense; and Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Department of Veterans Affairs.

IMPROVING MILITARY CAPABILITIES FOR CYBER OPERATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities held a hearing on Digital Warriors: Improving Military Capabilities for Cyber Operations. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral Michael S. Rogers, USN, Commander, U.S. Fleet Cyber Command and Commander, U.S. Tenth Fleet, U.S. Department of the Navy; Lieutenant General Rhett A. Hernandez, USA Commander, U.S. Army Cyber Command, U.S. Department of the Army; Lieutenant General Richard P. Mills, USMC, Deputy Commandant, Combat Development and Integration, Commanding General, USMC Combat Development Command, U.S. Department of the Marine Corps; and Major General Suzanne M. Vautrinot, USAF, Commander, 24th Air Force and Commander, Air Force Network Operations, U.S. Department of the Air Force.

EXAMINING PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled “Examining Proposals to Strengthen the National Labor Relations Act”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power completed markup of the “No More Solyndras Act”. The bill was forwarded, as amended.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL STABILITY OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Annual Report of the Financial Stability Oversight Council”. Testimony was heard from Timothy Geithner, Secretary, Department of the Treasury.

INVESTIGATING THE CHINESE THREAT, PART TWO: HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Investigating the Chinese Threat, Part Two: Human Rights Abuses, Torture and Disappearances”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

UNDERSTANDING THE HOMELAND THREAT LANDSCAPE

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Understanding the Homeland Threat Landscape”. Testimony was heard from Janet Napolitano, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security; and Matthew Olsen, Director, National Counterterrorism Center.

BEYOND THE STREETS: AMERICA’S EVOLVING GANG THREAT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing entitled “Beyond the Streets: America’s Evolving Gang Threat”. Testimony was heard from Robert F. Green, Assistant Commanding Officer, Operations-South Bureau, Los Angeles Police Department; Richard W. Stanek, Sheriff, Hennepin County, Minnesota; and public witnesses.

CLOUD COMPUTING: AN OVERVIEW OF THE TECHNOLOGY AND THE ISSUES FACING AMERICAN INNOVATORS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, Competition and the Internet held a hearing entitled “Cloud Computing: An Overview of the Technology and the Issues facing American